1)   (original) A location tracking system for building a geographic location database of network nodes in a computer network comprising:

a trace engine module configured to send trace Id commands to a plurality of user terminals, wherein said user terminals are actively coupled to a server node and said trace engine module obtains IP address of each of said user terminals and its corresponding geographic location,

a first database configured to store IP addresses obtained by said trace engine module and their corresponding geographical location; and

a second database configured to store a set of physical connections between IP addresses obtained by said trace engine module.

2)   (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 1, wherein geographic location of each of said user terminals is stored in a user profile record, previously provided by a user of said user terminal.

3)   (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said server is a chat room server.

4)   (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said server is a newsgroup server.

5)   (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said first database stores a information corresponding to a plurality of Internet service

providers along with their universal resource locator (URL) and geographic location.

6) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 5 further comprising a database of identifiable textual patterns corresponding to known host names and a geographical location corresponding to each one of said identifiable textual patterns.

7) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 6 wherein said database of identifiable textual patterns stores patterns corresponding to known host names, along with their corresponding cities and states abbreviations, so as to allow said tracking system determine the geographic location of a host node when host name of said node contains one of said identifiable textual patterns and at least one of said state and city abbreviations.

8) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 6 further comprising a database management module configured to estimate the geographical location of an end user IP address obtained by said trace engine module.

9) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 8 further comprising a web site coupled to said location tracking system, so as to determine the geographical locations of end users who access said web site.

10) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 9 further

comprising a URL switch configured to provide a URL address to an end user terminal who accesses said web site wherein said URL address is associated with the geographical location of said user terminal.

11) (original) A location tracking system in accordance with claim 9 further comprising a database configured to store geographical locations of end user who accessed said web site so as to prepare corresponding reports.

12) (original) A method for building a geographic location database of network nodes in a computer network comprising:

sending trace Id commands to a plurality of user terminals, wherein said user terminals are actively coupled to a server node so as to obtain IP address of each of said user terminals and its corresponding geographic location,

storing in a first database, IP addresses obtained along with their corresponding geographical location; and

storing in a second database, a set of physical connections between IP addresses obtained.

13) (original) The method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising the step of retrieving information relating to geographic location of each of said user terminals from a user profile record, wherein said information was previously provided by a user of said user terminal.

14)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of sending trace Id command to terminals communicating with a chat room server.

15)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 12 further comprising the step of sending trace Id commands to terminals communicating with a a newsgroup server.

16)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of storing in said first database information corresponding to a plurality of Internet service providers along with their universal resource locator (URL) and geographic location.

17)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 16 further comprising the step of storing in a third database identifiable textual patterns corresponding to known host names and a geographical location corresponding to each one of said identifiable textual patterns.

18)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing in said database of identifiable textual pattern, a list of geographical location abbreviations each corresponding to at least one of said textual patterns.

19)   (original) The method in accordance with claim 17 further comprising the step of storing in said database of identifiable textual patterns, domain name of company

networks, along with their geographical locations wherein the network nodes of the company networks reside.

20) (original) The method in accordance with claim 16 further comprising the step of estimating the geographical location of an end user IP address obtained in response to said trace Id commands.

21) (original) The method in accordance with claim 19 further comprising the step of determining the geographical locations of end users who access a web site.

22) (original) The method in accordance with claim 20 further comprising the step of providing a URL address to an end user terminal who accesses said web site wherein said URL address is associated with the geographical location of said user terminal.